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HIGHWORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and of the
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for the year
1959

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF HIGHWORTH

The

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Acting Medical Officer of Health

and

Senior Public Health Inspector
and Housing Officer

For the Year

1959

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HIGHWORTH BURM DISTRICT COUNCIL

1959

Chairman of the Council

EDMUND FREDERICK BOULTON, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council

MRS. ELSIE T. CONSTABLE

Clerk to the Council

WILFRED S.G. MILLS

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

All Members of the Council

Chairman - Dr. Joseph J. Hayward

Vice-Chairman - Walter H. Hayward

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE

All Members of the Council

Chairman - James L. Stephens

Vice-Chairman - Henry E. Garrett



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF AS AT

31ST DECEMBER, 1959.

Acting Medical Officer of Health (until 23.4.59)

K.J. ADAMS, M.B.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Univ. Lond.) Medical
Officer of Health for Devizes Borough & Rural District Councils.

Medical Officer of Health

W. NORMAN-TAYLOR, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.I.H.,
(also Medical Officer of Health Cricklade and Wootton Bassett
Rural District Council, Assistant County and School Medical
Officer, Wiltshire). (Commenced 23.4.59, resigned 31.12.59)

Senior Public Health Inspector

A.G. UNDERWOOD, CERT. S.I.B., F.A.P.H.I., MEAT AND FOOD CERT.,
CERT. N.E. INST. BUILDERS.

Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector

J.M. MELLORSE, CERT. R.S.A. (Scot.), M.A.P.H.I., MEAT AND FOOD
CERT.

Meat and Food Inspector

E.C. HINDOLD, CERT. S.I.E.J.B., MEAT AND FOOD CERT. (Commenced 1.4.59)

Additional Public Health Inspectors

K.C. CLARK, CERT. S.I.E.J.B., M.A.P.H.I., MEAT AND FOOD CERT.
G.S.N. BUGHAM, CERT. S.I.E.J.B., (Commenced 1.6.59)
G.S. WRIGHT, CERT. S.I.E.J.B., MEAT AND FOOD CERT. (Resigned 18.1.59)

Assistant Housing Officer

L. ROWLAND, A.P.I.P.H.H., A.I.Hsg., A.E.S.H.

Housing Assistants

F.D. MARSH
F.E. PINK

Clerical Staff

MISS M. ELLERY, Shorthand Typist
MISS B. BUSH, Shorthand Typist (Services shared with Cricklade
and Wootton Bassett Rural District Council, and Wiltshire County
Council).

Telephone Numbers

Acting Medical Officer of Health: DEVIZES 24.
Public Health Department: STIMLON 4847.



RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF HIGHWORTH

Tel: Swindon 4847

The Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
17 Bath Road,
Swindon, Wiltshire.

To the Chairman and Members of the Highworth Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the state of the Public Health of the Rural District for the Year 1959,

At the close of the year I had been acting as your Medical Officer of Health for six months. Unfortunately, in this brief period it is not possible for me to be conversant with all aspects of public health in your area, neither is it possible for me to know your people well. Much of my advice about infectious disease has been given to Mr. Underwood, your Senior Public Health Inspector, to whom I would like to express my gratitude for his ready co-operation. Emergencies occurred on several occasions when my presence was required in the area and these have been referred to in the text of this Report. On one occasion I felt I should have come over to Highworth to attend a conference at the Police Station. Mr. Underwood represented me there and sent a full written report.

The other difficulty in being twenty miles distant from Swindon is that one does not develop a satisfactory liason with the various officials responsible for the people's welfare, and the representatives of voluntary bodies. Close relationship with such persons means that one is on the scene early when environmental difficulties, child neglect, and problems with the aged occur.

I wish to thank the Chairman of the Council and the Committee Chairman for their ready appreciation of difficulties on Public Health matters, and I also wish to record the help of the Clerk to the Council, Mr. W.S.G. Mills, who has readily given me advice and made time available to discuss informally any subject.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,

KENNETH J. ADAMS.

Acting Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	48,549
Population (Registrar General's Estimate, ..	25,570
Number of Inhabited Houses	7,201
Rateable Value	£301,712
Sum Represented by Penny Rate.	£1,079

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth and Death Rates Compared with other Areas. (Birth and Deaths per 1,000 population)

			<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>
Highworth Rural District .. ..	..	..	18.96	12.02
England and Wales .. ..	..	..	16.5	11.6
Wiltshire .. ..	..	..	18.77	10.64

In calculating Birth and Death Rates, area comparability factors are issued by the Registrar General to "correct" irregularities in the age and sex structure of the population, and also to take into account any high mortality due to the presence of residential institutions.

Births and Infantile Deaths

	<u>Legitimate</u>		<u>Illegitimate</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
Live Births	226	241	5	7	479
Still Births	4	1	1	-	6
Deaths under 1 year	6	4	-	-	10
Deaths under 4 weeks	3	3	-	-	6
Deaths under 1 week	2	1	-	-	3

Infantile Mortality

The infantile mortality rate is the number of deaths in infants under one year of age per 1,000 registered live births. There were 10 deaths among infants under one year of age to 479 live births in the area. This is too small a figure to calculate an accurate infantile mortality rate but it compares very favourably with the National rate of 22.0 deaths in infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births, and the Wiltshire rate of 20.97.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year :-

Measles	355
Scarlet Fever	70
Whooping Cough	18
Dysentery	8
Purpural Tyrexia	8
Pneumonia	7
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	5
Tuberculosis (Other).	3
Meningococcal Infection	2
Food Poisoning	2
Polio-myelitis	1

Diphtheria

No cases of diphtheria were notified. The following number of children were immunised for the first time :-

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
Aged less than one year ..	224	318
Aged one to four years ..	64	75
Aged five to nine years ..	15	22

The following number of children received boosting injections :-

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
Aged one to four years ..	60	87
Aged five to nine years ..	195	228
Aged ten to fourteen years..	5	3

There should be no slackening in the Diphtheria Immunisation campaign. In 1958 an outbreak occurred among a class of 35 children in an infants' school in Essex. In 1959 cases occurred in the Finsbury/Islington area of London and also in Camberwell. In these areas the presence of infection was found by the occurrence of clinical cases of the disease in children who had not been immunised. When wide-spread throat swabbing was carried out it was found there were a large number of carriers infected with the Diphtheria bacillus who were not suffering from the disease because they had been immunised against it. Intensive efforts at the schools in these areas has brought the immunised state of the pupils nearly to the 100% level, and the outbreak was checked.

Nevertheless, early in 1960 Diphtheria made its first re-appearance for fourteen years at High Wycombe, Bucks, and after ten years absence at Walthamstow, Essex. This trend of the disease is ominous and parents should look to the immunised state of their children.

Whooping Cough

The following number of children were vaccinated against Whooping Cough for the first time :-

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
Aged less than one year ..	216	313
Aged one to four years ..	50	70

Eighteen cases of Whooping Cough were notified. The Wiltshire County Council and family doctors offer a combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough vaccine which is 80% - 90% effective in preventing the disease. This vaccine has improved greatly since its first introduction. It is well worth using, because the disease is not easily controlled by antibiotics, and is very infectious for young children.

Smallpox

The following vaccinations against Smallpox were given during the year :-

Age Group ..	Under 1 year	1 year	2 - 4 years	5 - 14 years	15 years or over
Vaccination ..	196	7	8	5	7
Re-vaccination ..	-	-	2	8	24

Tuberculosis

Eight new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year. Thanks to modern antibiotics, improved living standards and vaccination against the disease, the number of notifications received of recent years falls steadily. This is well demonstrated in the table^x below except for the year 1953 when an extensive Mass X-ray survey was held in Swindon and the surrounding areas. 22,000 miniature chest films were taken and the figure of 61 notifications occurring in that year represents the diagnosis of latent cases of Tuberculosis in the community rather than the occurrence of a large number of fresh cases.

x - This table is given overleaf

Year	No. of Cases	Year	No. of Cases	Year	No. of Cases
1949	36	1953	61	1956	31
1950	22	1954	32	1957	16
1951	29	1955	38	1958	12
1952	32			1959	8

The County Council continues to offer vaccination to 13 year old children against the disease. Only those children who have not been infected with tuberculosis when younger are vaccinated. This is done on the assumption that "non-reactors" are likely to come into contact with the infection during the five years after leaving school. In September the Medical Research Council published results of a five year trial with this vaccine, and included preliminary information up to 7½ years. The reduction in tuberculosis attributable to vaccination was 83%. The preliminary information up to 7½ years indicated that this degree of protection was continuing.

Poliomyelitis

One case of Poliomyelitis was notified in January. The symptoms developed whilst the child was a patient in the Children's Ward at Stratton St. Margaret Hospital. The patient was immediately sent to isolation and that section of the children's ward was closed. Contacts some of whom lived in Swindon Borough, were visited and excluded from school. Fortunately, no further cases developed.

Persons up to 25 years of age were offered vaccination by the County Council Health Services and it is interesting that the National incidence of Poliomyelitis in 1959 was lower than expected, despite the hot summer, which during July, August and September usually furthers the spread of the disease.

Measles

Three-hundred and fifty-five cases of Measles occurred during the year, and cost the Council £44.7.6d. in notification fees. Most doctors are agreed that the continued notification of this disease, which in the first instance was a war-time measure, serves little useful purpose.

Food Poisoning

Two cases of food poisoning occurred during the year. The first case was notified by the family doctor and on examination of faecal specimens the causative organism was found to be *Salmonella typhimurium*. As the man was a farmer he was excluded from milk handling until a negative result was obtained. No other members of the family were affected, and the source of the infection remained unknown.



The second case was an eight year old child. Again the causative organism was found to be Salmonella typhimurium. The possible source of infection appeared to be a wrapped synthetic cream sponge which the child had consumed entirely, and no other member of the family was affected. The child was ill with diarrhoea and vomiting for a period of 6 days. The father, a confectioner baker, was excluded from food handling until faecal specimens from all members of the family proved negative.

Diarrhoea and Vomiting

During November an outbreak of diarrhoea and vomiting affecting about 40 children and staff, occurred at Upper Stratton Infants' School. Full investigations were made by the Public Health Inspectors but no direct cause could be found. Advice on prevention of further spread was given and the outbreak soon died down.

CAPE OF THE TIDEPLY

Informal Action and Visits

It was not possible for me to make routine visits to old persons in your area, but I understand Mr. Taylor was able to do a fair amount of routine visiting and visited all housing applicants for whom there were medical certificates.

Compulsory Action under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951

In February I received information from the family doctor that an old person living on his own in Highworth, was unable to devote to himself proper care and attention and had refused to go to Hospital. I was able to meet the Health Visitor for the area at this old person's home, and so arrange that the Home Help who attended him was able to do so for a longer period each day. A neighbour was also good enough to look after the fire in the evenings and lift the patient when required.

This help tided the situation over a further three or four weeks when it became obvious that the amount of physical work the Home Help was involved in was becoming too much for her. A conference of welfare workers was held at Highworth Police Station and the following day I was able to visit again. As the old person was still adamant that he would not go to hospital I decided that the Emergency Admission procedure under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act should be applied.

I am pleased to say, on subsequently visiting Stratton St. Margaret Geriatric Unit, the old person was quite happy and content to be there and it was not necessary to ask for an extension of the period of detention under the Emergency Order.

PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS

During the year letters and pamphlets on the danger and prevention of accidents in the home were sent out to every occupied house in the District.

SUMMARY OF DEATHS

				Male	Female
Infectious Disease:	Influenza			1	-
	Syphilis			1	-
	Tuberculosis			-	1
	Meningococcal			1	-
Respiratory Disease:	Pneumonia			6	9
	Bronchitis			11	6
	Other			2	-
Cancer:	Stomach			8	2
	Lung.. ..			6	1
	Breast			-	7
	Uterus			-	2
	Blood			1	-
	Other.			13	11
Heart:	CORONARY DISEASE			20	9
	Brain Haemorrhage			13	18
	High Blood Pressure			1	3
	Other			39	41
Diabetes .. ..	.. ..			1	-
Nephritis .. ..	.. ..			1	1
Gastric and Duodenal Ulcer .. ..	.. ..			1	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate .. ..	.. ..			1	-
Congenital Malformations.. ..	.. ..			1	-
MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS .. ..	.. ..			5	1
All other accidents .. ..	.. ..			3	1
Suicide .. ..	.. ..			4	-
Other defined and ill defined diseases .. ..	.. ..			13	9
Total :-				153	124

CAUSES OF DEATH

Road Accidents

Road accidents are one of our biggest public health problems and accounted for 6 deaths in your area. Detailed legislation on a whole series of technical improvements for vehicles and driving cannot be passed too soon. Every new house, including council houses, should have a drive-in parking space. No parking should be allowed on main roads, and all large vehicles should carry emergency lights to place on the road at night in the event of a breakdown, whether road lights are in working order or not. Legislation concerning eye-sight and alcohol consumption are long overdue, and standard tests are now available for both conditions. These are but a few of the obvious precautions needed to prevent the present slaughter on the roads - 77 persons were killed and 915 injured on the roads in Wiltshire in 1959.

Coronary Disease

It may justifiably be said that in a less spectacular manner, the motor car is killing us quietly whilst we sit inside it. Coronary disease is a major cause of premature death in middle age and accounted for 29 deaths in this area. Clues to its causation narrow to three main possibilities :-

- (a) physical inactivity.
- (b) emotional strain.
- (c) high quality diet, particularly high fat intake.

It is, for example, associated with other things, such as smoking, but this may be little more than an association with the way of life. Its incidence is increasing and it affects men more often than women. To all men over the age of 40 who would consider themselves of professional or of business executive status, I would advise: "Take this disease seriously or else increase your life assurance cover. Let the internal combustion engine do less for you, walk to work, go up to the Golf Course and take regular moderate exercise. Reduce your dietary fat intake, particularly reducing fats of animal origin. The fat from beef, pork, butter, milk, liver, egg, lard and ham should be eaten in moderation. Lard can be replaced by vegetable oils in much home cookery. Grill instead of fry."

Those who do not believe me would do well to look at the following table as it is surprising to compare the principle causes of death and put the relative risks in their correct perspective:-

Total Deaths from Certain Causes in England and Wales for 1957.

Cause	No. of Deaths	Preventive Measures
Coronary Disease.. ..	76,324	See above
Bronchitis.. ..	26,935	Clean Air.Cease smoking
Lung Cancer	19,119	Clean Air.Cease smoking
Stomach Cancer	13,995	-
Suicide	5,316	Care of Aged. Improve Mental Health.
Motor Vehicle Accidents.. ..	4,898	See above
Respiratory Tuberculosis.. ..	4,249 x	Vaccination,early diagnosis.
Pregnancy, Child Birth, Abortion	349 x	Antenatal care.
Homicide and War	347	-
Poliomyelitis	227 x	Vaccination
Measles	95	Avoid exposure of young
Whooping Cough	88 x	Vaccination
Diphtheria	6 x	Immunisation

x Already greatly reduced by Public Health measures.

REPORT OF THE
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
AND HOUSING OFFICER

To the Chairman and Members of the Highworth Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my 15th Annual Report to the Council, showing the work carried out in the Public Health Department under my supervision during the year 1959.

All the routine duties required by statute were carried out during the year, and the increase in staff in the Public Health Department gave greater facilities for routine inspections to be finalised, and to give us up to date records which are required by the Minister.

I should like to show my appreciation of the team spirit within the Public Health and Housing Departments which, in my opinion, is vitally important in the day-to-day duties of a progressive rural authority. I do not wish to refer to any individual particularly, but I must make mention of the co-operation, help and advice that I have received from Dr. Adams, the present Acting Medical Officer of Health. I feel that this is fully appreciated by the Council, and I would like to thank him, and his staff, for the help he gave me during 1959.

My thanks are also due to the Chairman and Members of the Council, and the Public Health and Housing Committees for their continued support during the year.

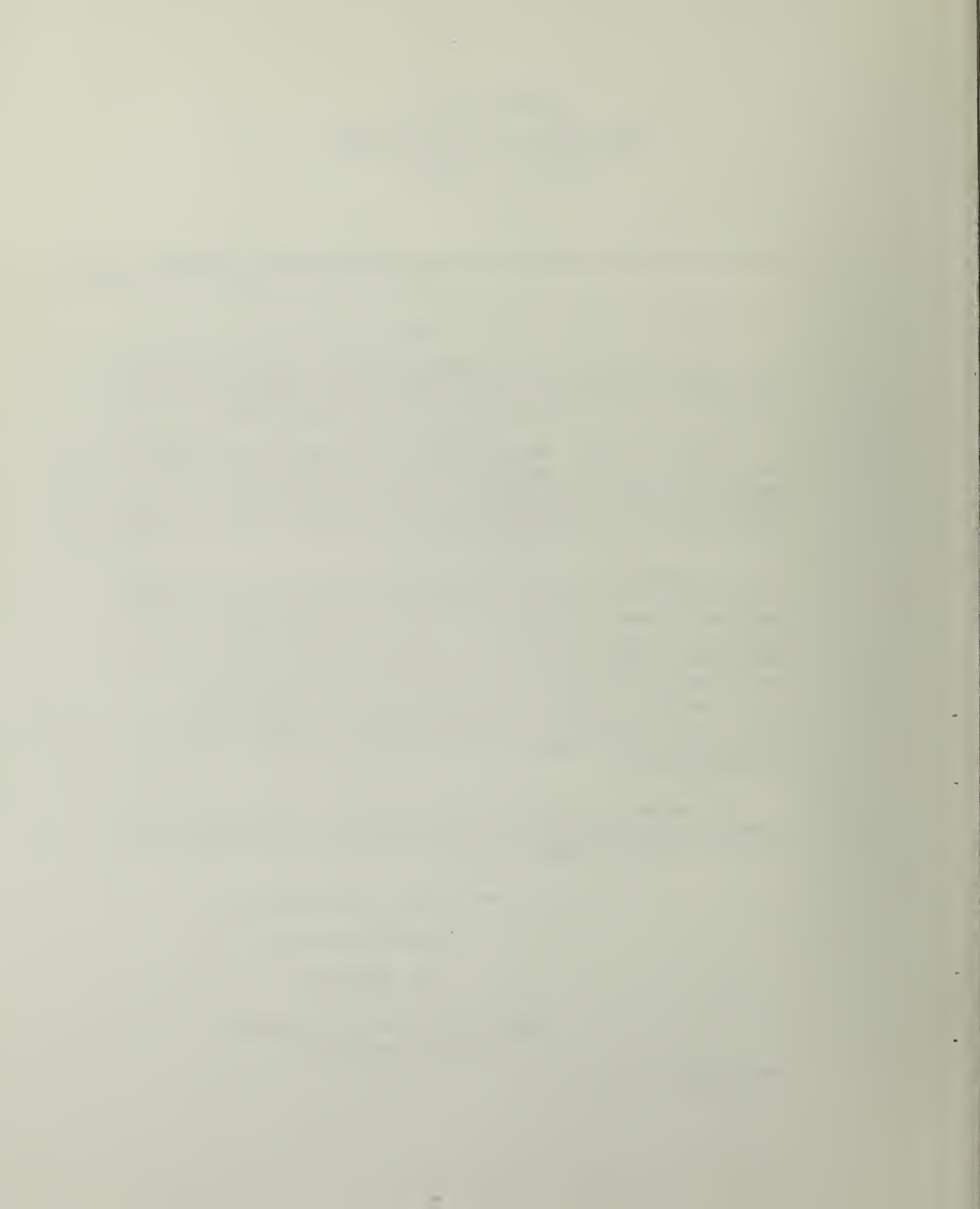
I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A.G. UNDERWOOD

Senior Public Health Inspector
and Housing Officer.

May, 1960.



NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS

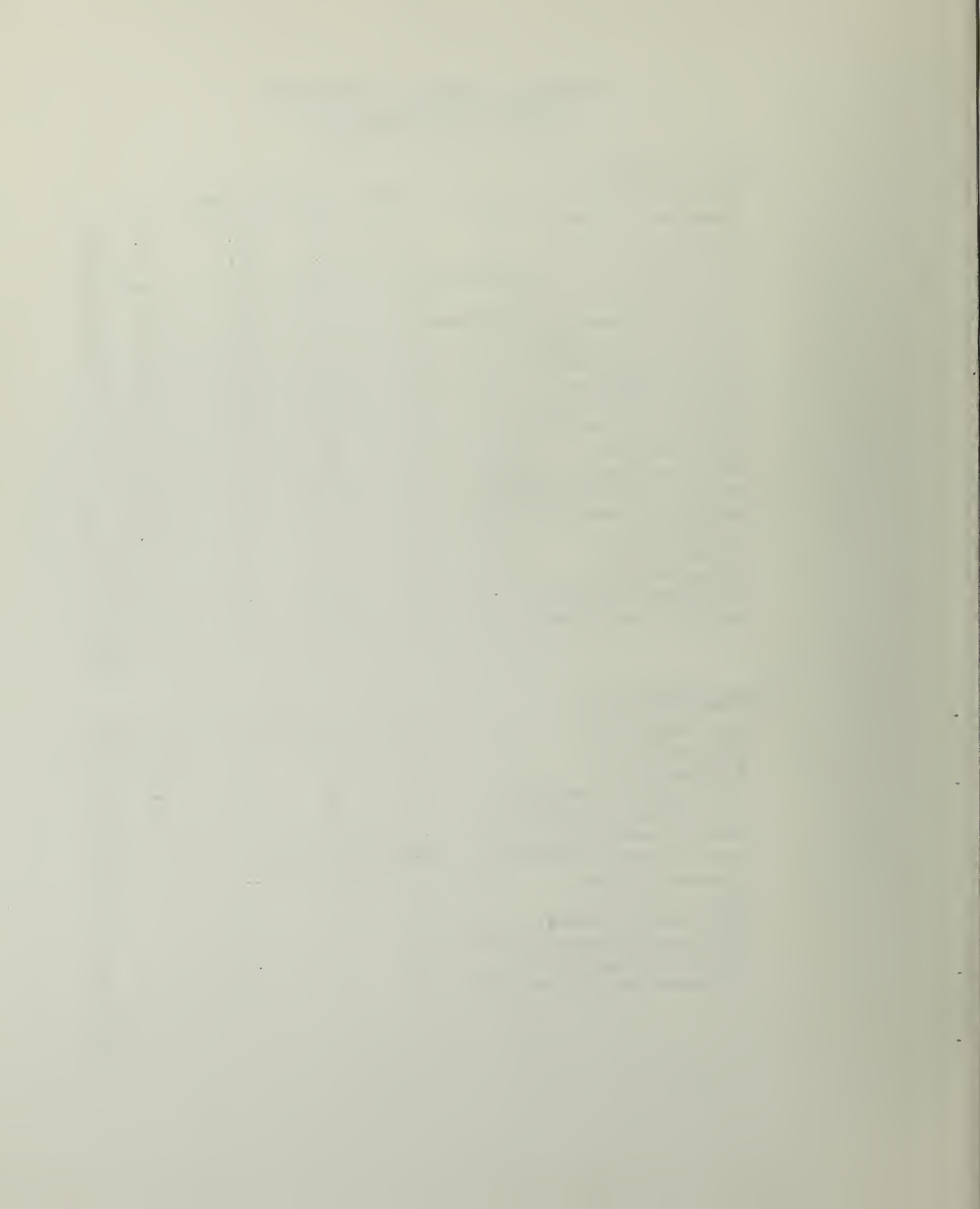
CARRIED OUT DURING 1959

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Number of houses inspected for Public Health reasons	..	7
Revisits to above	.. ..	10
Complaints general	.. ..	44
Revisits ..	.. ..	82
Infectious disease enquiries	.. ..	43
Faeces samples	.. ..	15
Visits to Pathological Laboratory	.. ..	40
Drainage inspections	.. ..	55
Public Conveniences	.. ..	16
Refuse Collection	.. ..	124
Refuse disposal	.. ..	62
Provision of dustbins	.. ..	150
Water supplies	.. ..	37
Water sampling	.. ..	72
Streams and watercourses.	.. ..	9
Keeping of animals	.. ..	25
Disinfestation	.. ..	8
Rodent Control	.. ..	115
Offensive Trades	.. ..	104
Smoke observations	.. ..	5
Moveable dwellings.	.. ..	212
		1235

FOOD & DRUGS ACT

Meat Inspection	.. ..	1081
Bakchouses ..	.. ..	23
Butchers' shops	.. ..	15
Cafes and Restaurants	.. ..	27
Wet and Dried fish shops	.. ..	8
General provisions	.. ..	122
Works' Canteens, Hostel and School Meals Depot	.. ..	42
Licenced Premises	.. ..	147
Delivery Vehicles	.. ..	17
Other food premises	.. ..	33
Food manufacturing premises	.. ..	15
Ice-cream samples	.. ..	38
Ice-cream storage and sale	.. ..	15
		1583



MILK AND DAIRIES

Milk Samples	..	..	..	..	..	58
Retail dairies	..	..	..	..	..	18
Farms and dairy farms	..	..	..	..	..	3
						79

FACTORIES ACT

Factories inspection	..	..	..	..	..	96
Revisits	..	..	..	..	..	42
Outworkers	..	..	..	..	..	54
Fire Certificates	..	..	..	..	..	4
						196

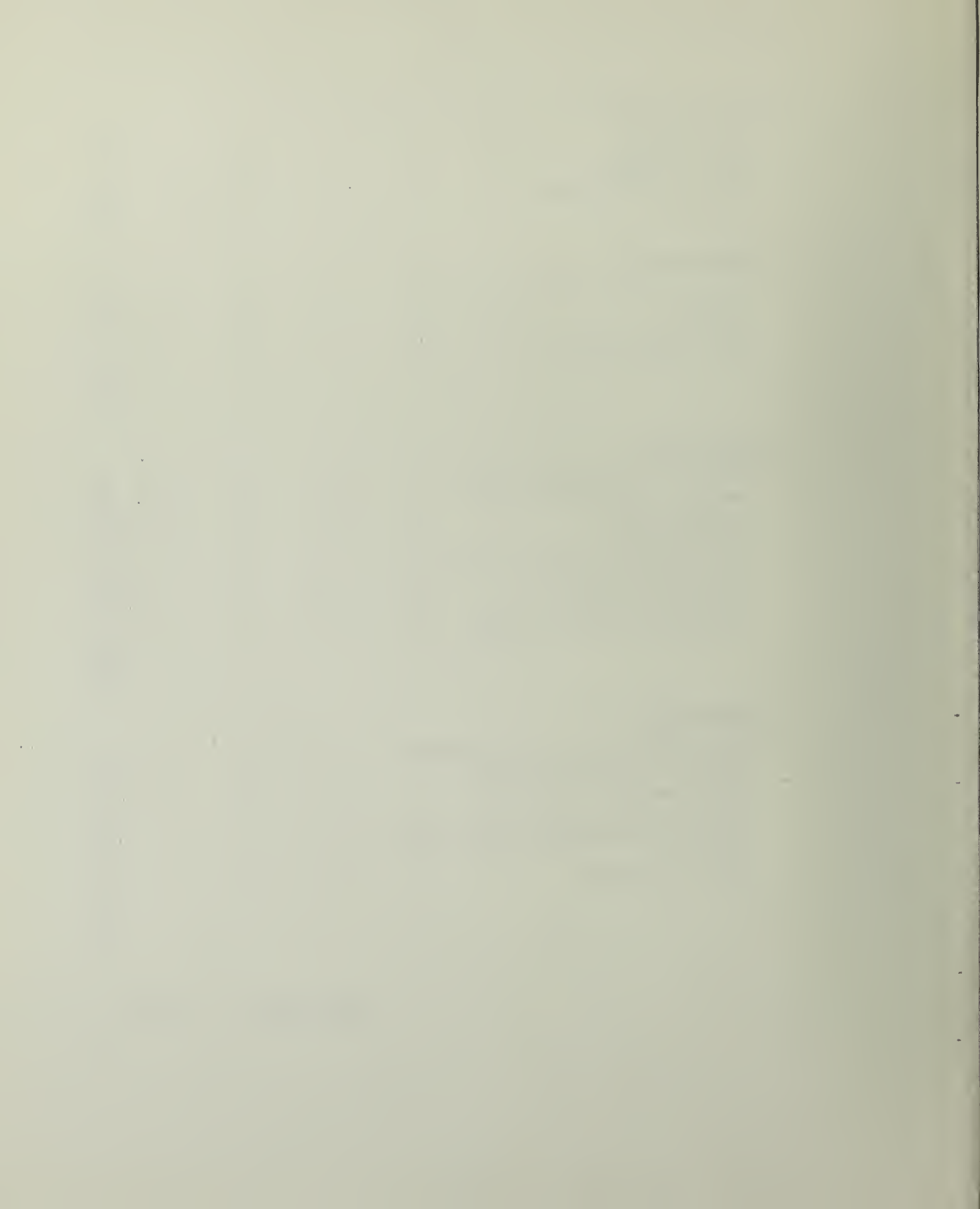
HOUSING ACTS

Housing Inspections, Section 11	..	..	..	..	..	78
Revisits to above	..	..	..	..	..	122
Housing survey	..	..	..	..	..	389
Overcrowding	..	..	..	..	..	3
Miscellaneous housing visits	..	..	..	..	..	39
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	..	..	75
Visits to Council houses	..	..	..	..	..	1215
Visits under Rent Act 1957	..	..	..	..	..	4
						1925

MISCELLANEOUS

Halls and places of entertainment	..	..	..	..	..	2
Storage of petroleum spirit	..	..	..	..	..	300
Rag Flock Act	..	..	..	..	..	1
Interviews and appointments	..	..	..	..	..	170
Miscellaneous public health visits	..	..	..	..	..	63
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	11
Waste Food Order	..	..	..	..	..	10
						557

GRAND TOTAL :- 5,575



SECTION ONE - WATER SUPPLIES

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES - GENERAL STATISTICS

ON INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY THE ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR

1. Main Sources - Latton and Ogbourne, Swindon Corporation
Ham Road and Gadbourne, Highworth R.D.C.
2. How obtained - Pumping from boreholes.
3. Daily average consumption - 1958 = 361,000. 1959 = 401,000
4. Increased % consumption during 1959 - 11%
5. Number of reservoirs and total capacity - Two, 25,000 each
6. Number of miles of water mains in the district - 56 $\frac{1}{2}$
Number of miles laid since 1945 - 25 $\frac{1}{2}$
7. Total number of metered connections - 328
8. Total overall consumption - 146,405,000 per year for 1959
9. Total metered consumption - 78,252,000 per year for 1959
10. Total domestic consumption - 68,153,000 per year for 1959
11. Average domestic consumption per head of population per day - 14 gallons
12. Average overall consumption per head of population per day - 31 gallons
13. Amount of water supplied during 1958 and 1959 from the following -

	1958	1959
a) Swindon Corp. - Ogbourne	36,038,000	25,937,000
Latton	94,327,000	85,218,000
b) Highworth R.D.C. - Ham Road	9,460,000	11,141,000
Markham Bottom	4,410,000	8,030,000
c) Cricklade & W. Bassett R.D.C.		
Ashton Keynes	2,170,000	1,551,000
N.B. Supply discontinued 19.8.59		

Total:- 146,405,000 131,877,000

These figures are based on the actual population supplied by the Highworth Rural District Council, the appropriate figure being 13,000. Stratton St. Margaret, Haydon Wick, and part of Wroughton are supplied direct by the Swindon Corporation.

WATER SUPPLIES GENERALLY.

The year showed continued progress in the provision of internal piped water supplies. Review of the last five years evaluates progress made, and indicates the amount of work still to be done in this connection.

Comparative figures are given below :-

	<u>1954</u>	<u>1959</u>
Houses with internal piped water ..	5509	7021
Houses served by standpipes	220	107
Houses using wells	334	73

Expressed as percentages of the whole district :-

Houses with internal piped water	97.5%
Houses served by standpipes	1.5%
Houses using wells/springs	1.0%

The distribution of houses without internal piped supplies can be seen on the table following. Study of these figures shows that of the 14 parishes in the district 6 parishes have more than 95% of their houses with piped water indoors, and that 4 of these 6 parishes have virtually 100%. None of the other parishes has less than 84%.

Continued progress to eliminate the use of standpipes and wells is expected to be made in 1960. It will be appreciated, however, that limiting factors are -

- a) availability of mains supplies.
- b) cost of connection

both factors being interdependent. It will also be appreciated that the introduction of water inside a house results in greatly increased consumption. This water has to be disposed of after use and lack of proper drainage, applicable in some 103 out of the 180 cases remaining to be dealt with, is also a limiting factor.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSES WITHOUT INTERNAL PIPED SUPPLIES

PARISH	TOTAL NO. OF HOUSES	SOURCE OF SUPPLY	ON PIPED WATER	% PIPED	ON STAND- PIPE	% STAND- PIPE	ON WELLS ETC	% WELLS
Bishopstone	185	Lenny Down - Church Comm. Ogbourne - Swindon Corporation (Hinton Supply)	164	89%	18	9.7%	3	1.3%
Blunsdon	356	Latton - Swindon Corporation	344	97%	5	1.4%	7	1.6%
Castle Eaton	81	Ashton Keynes - Cricklade and Wootton Bassett R.D.C.	68	84%	11	13.6%	2	2.4%
Chiseldon	619	Ogbourne - Swindon Corporation Burderop Estate Reservoir - Burderop Estates	575	93%	27	4.4%	17	2.6%
Hannington	71	Latton - Swindon Corporation	61	86%	1	1.4%	9	12.6%
Haydon Wick	165	Latton - Swindon Corporation	158	96%	5	2.8%	2	1.2%
Highworth	1054	Latton - Swindon Corporation	1039	98.6%	6	0.5%	9	0.9%
Inglesham	41	Latton - Swindon Corporation	38	93%	2	4.7%	1	2.3%
Liddington	120	Ogbourne - Swindon Corporation	105	87.5%	12	10.0%	3	2.5%
South Marston	161	Latton - Swindon Corporation	151	93%	1	0.7%	9	6.3%
Stanton Fitz.	64	Latton - Swindon Corporation	64	100%	-	-	-	-
Stratton St. Margaret.	2302	Latton - Swindon Corporation	2801	100%	-	-	1	-
Wanborough	309	Ogbourne - Swindon Corporation Ham Road - H.R.D.C. Foxhill - Foxhill Estates	288	93%	14	4.7%	7	2.3%
Wroughton	1173	Ogbourne - Swindon Corporation Gadbourne - H.R.D.C. Barkham Bottom - H.R.D.C.	1165	99.3%	5	0.4%	3	0.3%
TOTAL:-	7201	TOTALS:-	7021	97.5%	107	1.5%	73	1.0%

DETAILS OF ALL WATER SAMPLES TAKEN
IN THE VARIOUS PARISHES

PARISH	TOTAL NO. SAMPLES TAKEN. (Chem. and Bacteriological).	TOTAL SATIS- FACTORY	TOTAL NO. UNSATISFACT- ORY
Bishopstone	4	4	-
Blunsdon	3	3	-
Castle Eaton	2	2	-
Chiseldon	4	4	-
Hannington	-	-	-
Haydon Wick	1	1	-
Highworth	1	1	-
Inglesham	-	-	-
Liddington	4	3	1
South Marston	1	1	-
Stanton Fitzwarren	1	1	-
Stratton St. Margaret	8	7	1
Warborough	10	10	-
Wroughton	15	13	2
TOTAL :-	54	50	4

SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC SUPPLIES

Number of samples submitted for bacteriological examination	35
Number of samples giving unsatisfactory results ..	2
Number of samples submitted for chemical analysis. ..	6
Number of samples giving unsatisfactory results ..	-
Number of samples submitted for fluoride test ..	-

Number of new connections made to the Public Supplies in 1959:-

1) To the Swindon Borough Council's mains as water undertakers in the Highworth R.D.C. area :-	
Domestic use (private property)	29 1/4
Domestic use (Council property)	-
Trade purposes (metered)	3
2) To the Highworth R.D. Council's mains:-	
Domestic use (private property)	108
Domestic use (Council property)	6
Trade purposes (metered)	18
Total connections :- ..	429

PRIVATE SUPPLIES

There are six main private supplies in the District :-

<u>Source of Supply</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Area of District Supplied</u>
Elcombe Supply, Wroughton	Wiltshire County Council	Part of Elcombe
Salthrop-Bassett Down	Mr. Arnold-Forster's Est.	Part of Wroughton
Burderop Reservoir	Calley Estates	Part of Chiseldon
Hodson Supply	Calley Estates	Part of Chiseldon
Foxhill Supply	Mr. Morton, Foxhill	Part of Wanborough
Bishopstone Reservoir	The Church Commissioners of England	Bishopstone

None of the supplies are chlorinated.

The results of the samples taken are tabulated below :-

<u>P</u> <u>ARISH</u>	<u>TOTAL NO.</u> <u>OF SAMPLES</u> <u>TAKEN</u>	<u>TOTAL NO.</u> <u>SATISFACTORY</u>	<u>TOTAL NO.</u> <u>UNSATISFACTORY</u>
<u>BISHOPSTONE</u> Church Commissioners	4	4	-
<u>CHISELDON</u> Burderop and Hodson	3	3	-
<u>WROUGHTON</u> Bassett Down/Salthrop House. Elcombe	2	-	2
<u>WANBOROUGH</u> Foxhill	4	4	-
TOTAL :-	13	11	2

SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS OF PRIVATE SUPPLIES

Number of samples submitted for bacteriological examination	13
Number of samples giving unsatisfactory results..	2
Number of samples submitted for chemical analysis	2
Number of samples giving unsatisfactory results..	-
Number of samples submitted for fluoride test ..	-

INDIVIDUAL SUPPLIES

There are still a small number of houses which are supplied by wells, but the vast majority of all the houses in this area, which are within a reasonable distance of a mains supply, are now connected to that supply.

As the Council's mains continue to increase so will the number of individual supplies by well water be further reduced.

PARISH	TOTAL NO. OF SAMPLES TAKEN.	TOTAL NO. SATISFACTORY	TOTAL NO. UNSATISFACTORY
Sevenhampton	1	-	1
Blunsdon	2	2	-
TOTAL :-	3	2	1

SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS OF INDIVIDUAL SUPPLIES

Number of samples submitted for bacteriological examination	3
Number of samples giving unsatisfactory results	1
Number of samples submitted for chemical analysis. ..	-
Number of samples giving unsatisfactory results	-

SUMMARY OF ALL SAMPLING

Total number of samples submitted for bacteriological examination from public, private and individual supplies	57
Total number of samples submitted for chemical analysis from public, private and individual supplies ..	8
Total number of samples submitted for fluoride test ..	-
Total number of samples taken :- ..	65

WATER ACT 1945.

During the year ten Notices were served under Section 30 of the Water Act 1945.

Nine houses were provided with a mains water supply, and work to instal a water supply in the tenth house had commenced at the end of the year.

The following Table gives a list of the Council-owned standpipes which are still in use in the various Parishes. It has been possible to disconnect 5 standtaps, and it is hoped that the remaining 5 standtaps will be dispensed with shortly.

PARISH	LOCATION OF STANDTAP	NUMBER
Blunsdon	Hunts Hill	One
Highworth	Hampton	One
Bishopstone	Near School	One
Liddington	Purley Road	One
	Near Church	One
TOTAL :-		Five

SECTION TWO - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD,
FOOD PREPARING PREMISES AND
FOOD STOPS

NUMBER OF PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF
SECTION 16 OF THE FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955.

Number of premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food	14
Number of premises registered for the manufacture and sale of Ice-cream	--
Number of premises registered for the sale of pre- packed Ice-cream	67
Total number of premises registered:-- ..	81
Number of inspections carried out at Registered Food Premises	63
Total number of food premises of all types in the district, as shown by type of business on following page	224

DETAILS OF FOOD PREMISES SUBJECT TO THE FOOD (HYGIENE) REGULATIONS, 1955.

All the food shops enumerated below were inspected either once or twice during the year, and contraventions brought to the notice of the occupiers.

	Bishopstone	Blunsdon	Castle Eaton	Chiseldon	Hannington	Hayden Wick	Highworth	Inglesham	Liddington	South Marston	Stanton Fitzwarren	Stratton St. Margaret	Wanborough	Wroughton	TOTAL :-
General Provisions	3	5	1	5	1	2	10	1	1	1	1	23	3	11	68
Sweets, Confectionery & Ice-cream	-	-	-	2	-	1	6	-	-	-	1	5	-	1	16
Butchers	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	2	9
Cooked Meats	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Greengrocers	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	2	7
Bakers	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	1	9
Hot and Fried Fish	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	4
Cafes	-	1	-	2	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	10
Chemists	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Wholesale Stores	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Poultry Packers	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Manufacturing Premises	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	5
Hostels and Hospitals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
School Meals Cooking Depot	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	6
School Canteens	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	7
Schools where meals are taken	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	3	1	4	14
Works Canteens	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	2	7
Clubs	-	2	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	3	-	1	9
Licensed Premises and Off Licencees	2	2	1	6	2	2	9	-	2	2	-	10	7	7	52
TOTAL :-	7	13	3	22	3	6	39	3	4	6	2	68	13	35	224

FOOD SHOPS GENERAL

All food shops in the area were inspected, and this time placed into three categories - 'A' 'B' and 'C'

- 'A' = A good standard in relation to the Regulations, and to handling of food.
- 'B' = A reasonable standard in relation to the Regulations, and with good handling of food.
- 'C' = Non-compliance with the Regulations, and the necessity for constant supervision.

The following was the result of the survey (this does not include butchers shops, which are itemised below).

62 shops in Category 'A'

34 shops in Category 'B'

2 shops in Category 'C'

Approximately 40 contraventions of the Food (Hygiene) Regulations were noted, but the majority were of a minor nature and often two or more were noted in the same shop. I am now able to state that there is a general high standard of food hygiene throughout the area.

One problem was noted by the inspector concerned and that, the evident lack of storage space in most of the general provision stores. This was due to modern methods having dispensed with open food displays, and substituted a greater number and variety of packed goods, as well as refrigerated foods. Many shops with a large consumer demand were found to have congested or untidy storerooms. Expansion in many villages was different, but three shops were able to submit plans to enlarge the storage accommodation.

The Regulation prohibiting smoking was well kept generally, and only three contraventions were noted. These were dealt with by warnings.

Butchers Shops

The nine butchers shops in the district include both new and old established businesses, the whole showing considerable variation in regard to the embodiment of modern features in construction and equipment.

However, all butchers now have refrigerated storage accommodation, every shop is equipped with proper personal washing facilities, and separate sinks for the cleansing of equipment.

Routine inspections were made during the year of all the premises. Contraventions of the Food (Hygiene) Regulations of a minor nature were encountered involving lack of facilities and unhygienic practices. In addition two premises were found to be unsatisfactory to a more serious degree, one by reason mainly of structural defects, and the other through general uncleanness and unhygienic handling. Notices and re-inspection have secured a satisfactory standard in the latter case.

The other premises are undergoing structural alteration and improvement, and should be satisfactory in the near future.

Industrial and Communal Feeding within the District

There are 16 communal feeding centres within the Council's area, of which detailed inspection and report has been made in each case, they are as follows :-

Industrial Canteens	...	6
School Meals Depot	...	1
School Canteens	...	3
Hostels	...	2
Hotels and Guest Houses..		3
Sports Stadium	...	1
Total :-		<u>16</u>

It was found on inspection that the number of meals served in these 16 establishments was approximately 4,500 daily, some of which were snacks, the bulk being main meals. In addition to this number there were some 7,000 to 8,000 beverages daily.

Few serious structural defects were found in any of the premises, and whatever work of repair and redecoration was needed has been carried out at our request. Food equipment generally is good, fittings and fixtures clean and in most cases made of a satisfactory material. Wooden surfaces continue in use in some places, but are gradually being replaced or re-covered. Lighting and ventilation is generally satisfactory.

In all the larger canteens and school canteens medical inspection is carried out on employment of kitchen staff, with the exception of Stratton Hostel.

Food Handling

Given that premises and equipment are generally satisfactory, and can be maintained so by routine visits, the question of food handling remains to be dealt with.

The standard of hygiene in handling methods, and personal hygiene among catering staff was found on the whole to be reasonably good, but even in the best equipped and organised canteens odd instances of unsatisfactory handling methods were found.

PREPARATION AND SALE OF ICE-CREAM

There are no ice-cream manufacturers in the area, but 87 premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream.

All ice-cream sold is pre-packed, and each make is sampled regularly.

METHYLENE BLUE GRADINGS

Thirty-seven ice-cream samples were taken with the results listed below :-

Grade I	22
Grade II	13
Grade III	2
Grade IV	-

SECTION THREE - MILK SUPPLIES

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS 1949 - 1954

Regular sampling of all milk sold in the district was carried out throughout the year. It is pleasing to note the complete absence of any positive result of tubercle bacilli in the raw milk sold, but this is not a reason for complacency.

The number of tests declared void which are shown in the accompanying tables, was due to the high atmospheric temperatures during the summer months. In the three cases where the milk failed the methylene blue test the further check samples were satisfactory.

Number of Dairies registered at 31.12.59 ..	11
Number of Distributors registered at 31.12.59 ..	25
Number of visits to dairies re: supplies and samples &c	81

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS 1949 MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS 1949

Number of Dealers licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk at 31.12.59 ..	13
Number of Dealers licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk at 31.12.59 ..	13
Number of Dealers licensed to sell Sterilised Milk at 31.12.59 ..	3
Number of Dealers granted Supplementary Licenses to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk at 31.12.59 ..	9
Number of Dealers granted Supplementary Licenses to sell Pasteurised Milk at 31.12.59 ..	9
Number of Dealers granted Supplementary Licenses to sell Sterilised Milk at 31.12.59 ..	6

Two milk vending machines were licensed for the sale of Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurised milk. The use of one of these machines was subsequently discontinued.

DETAILS OF MILK SAMPLES TAKEN AND SUBMITTED FOR METHYLENE
BLUE REDUCTION TEST AND/OR BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Designation	Methylene Blue Reduction Test				Biological Examination			
	Samples Taken	Number Passed	Number Failed	Number Void	Samples Taken	Number Negative	Number Positive	Number Void
Tuberculin Tested	22	19	3	-	9	9	-	-
Pasteurised	26	7	-	19	-	-	-	-
TOTAL :-	48	26	3	19	9	9	-	-

EXAMINATION FOR BRUCELLA ABORTUS

Designation	Ring Test for Brucella Abortus		
	Samples Taken	Number Negative	Number Positive
Tuberculin Tested	10	8	2
Pasteurised	1	1	-
TOTAL :-	11	9	2 x

x Brucella Abortus not isolated after inoculation of guinea pig.

PHOSPHOTASE TEST FOR PASTEURISED MILK

Samples Taken	Less than 2.3 Lovibond Units	More than 2.3 Lovibond Units
20	20	-

SECTION FOUR - MEAT INSPECTION

General

The figures in the following statistical tables show a considerable increase in slaughtering carried out in the district. The kill at the Bacon Factory, and the small private slaughterhouse at Highworth, has remained substantially the same, the increase being entirely due to the build up of trade at the private slaughterhouse established at Stratton St. Margaret in August of 1958.

One-hundred-per-cent inspection of all animals slaughtered has, nevertheless, been maintained by the appointment of a full-time Meat Inspector, as visualised in my last Report. The new inspector took up his duties on the 1st April 1959.

The introduction of the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations 1958, and the Prevention of Cruelty Regulations 1958 has necessitated a review of the conditions existing at the three slaughterhouses in the area. Comprehensive inspections of each slaughterhouse have been carried out, and each occupier notified in detail of the new requirements. In the case of the new abattoir and the slaughterhouse at Highworth, the Regulations present no major difficulties, the former being newly constructed and the latter having undergone extensive alteration and reconstruction within the last five years, both are satisfactorily sited, constructed and reasonably well equipped. The bacon factory, however, fell well below the required standards and considerable time has been spent on negotiating for its improvement. There the greatest disappointment has been that the unpredictable state of the bacon industry and the capital cost of building a completely new slaughterhouse, as envisaged last year, was found to be prohibitive. However, agreement was reached on the repair and renovation of the existing premises, and this work has been in progress during the latter part of the year.

In reporting upon the work of meat inspection the most important feature is the present low incidence of tuberculosis. The statistics relating to cattle reflect the success of the tuberculosis eradication scheme in this area.

Owing to the considerable increase in slaughtering since the establishment of the new slaughterhouse at Stratten it is impracticable to compare present figures with those in previous reports, or to trace the decline in this disease over recent years. However, in this area, at least we have now reached the stage when it is possible to say that the occurrence of tuberculosis in cattle is rare, with the prospect of being able to report in the near future that this disease is virtually non-existent.

By reference to the figures in the statistical tables it will be seen that out of over 2,000 cattle only 20 were found to be infected. Only two were cases of generalised tuberculosis, and of the other 18, 10 were reactor cows.

The percentage figure for tuberculosis in pigs shows a fall of 1.7% on last year, but this cannot be taken to indicate a trend. However, nearly 34,000 pigs were slaughtered in the district during the year. 14 cases of generalised tuberculosis were found, the remainder being in nearly every case localised infections of the head and/or intestines.

The transport of pigs, especially during the hot summer months of last year again resulted in animals arriving dead at the bacon factory. In addition to the cases of suffocation which occurred, one incident is worthy of mention. After a long journey by road throughout a hot summer's day in July, a vehicle with some 70 pigs arrived at the bacon factory. On unloading 19 pigs were found to be dead, two died later and many were in a distressed condition but subsequently revived. All the affected animals were on the lower deck of the vehicle, and the cause of their condition was subsequently reported to be due to asphyxiation from fumes from the transport vehicle's faulty exhaust system.

There were 9 cases of cysticercus bovis during the year, animals involved were either young heifers or steers. Each case appeared to be confined to a single cyst in either head or heart as further examination revealed no further evidence of infestation. Carcasses were subjected to refrigeration.

ALL CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED. IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	1510	655	113	5770	33958	-
Number inspected	1510	655	113	5770	33958	-
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	8	84	9	96	27	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	420	256	5	788	6295	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	28.3%	58%	12.4%	15.3%	18.6%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	1	Nil	14	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	8	10	Nil	Nil	1587	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.6%	1.9%	0.9%	-	4.7%	-
<u>Cysticercosis:</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	9	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	9	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	-	-	-	-	-

INCIDENCE OF DISEASE (WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO TUBERCULOSIS) IN
PIGS SLAUGHTERED AND EXAMINED AT THE STRATTON ST. MARGARET
WILTSHIRE BACON FACTORY LIMITED, 1956 - 1959.

	1956	1957	1958	1959
Number of pigs killed and examined	30,736	31,390	33,919	33,457
<u>All Diseases Except Tuberculosis:</u>				
Whole Carcasses condemned	37	44	42	21
Parts or organs condemned	5,179	4,272	4,310	6,206
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	16.9%	13.7%	12.5%	18.6%
<u>Tuberculosis Only:</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	27	26	21	13
Parts or organs condemned	1,435	1,785	2,183	1,572
Percentage of the numbers inspected and affected with tuberculosis	4.7%	5.8%	6.4%	4.7%

0

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

CARCASSES AND ORGANS CONTAINED IN ALL
SLAUGHTERHOUSES IN THE AREA.

Beasts and all organs	..	94
Beast carcass meat	..	2516 lbs.
Beast heads	..	44
Beast lungs	..	164
Beast livers	..	374
Beast part livers	..	176
Beast hearts	..	28
Beast kidneys	..	16
Beast spleens	..	2
Sheep and all organs	..	96
Sheep carcass meat	..	39 lbs.
Sheep lungs	..	547
Sheep livers	..	331
Sheep heads	..	2
Sheep hearts	..	13
Pigs and all organs	..	41
Pig carcass meat	..	607 lbs.
Pig heads	..	1318
Pig plucks	..	354
Pig livers	..	1124
Pig lungs	..	3436
Pig hearts	..	712
Pig spleens	..	114
Pig intestines	..	601
Pig flecks	..	349
Pig kidneys	..	1070
Calves and all organs	..	10
Calves lungs	..	4
Calves liver	..	1
Gallons of blood	..	180 galls.

VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF UNSOUND FOOD

During the year the following foodstuffs were inspected, and found to be unfit for human consumption. Surrender notes were issued to the retailers concerned.

140 lbs. - Beef
68 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. - Pork
48 lbs. - Sheep Offals
78 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. - Corned Beef
14 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. - Cooked Ham
12 lbs. - Tinned Tongue
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. - Tinned Pork Luncheon Meat
2 lbs. - Tinned Pineapple
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. - Tinned Tomatoes
10 ozs. - Tinned Peas
8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. - Tinned Sardines

SECTION FIVE - FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1959

List of Factories in the District

Aero Manufacturers and Repairs	..	..	..	1
Agricultural Crop Driers	..	..	..	1
Animal Residuals	..	..	..	1
Basket Maker	..	..	..	1
Bakers and Confectioners	..	..	..	10
Brewing and Mineral Waters	..	..	..	2
Brickmaking	..	..	..	1
Blacksmiths	..	..	..	2
Cabinet Making and Carpentry	..	..	..	2
Concrete Block Making.	..	..	..	1
Electronics	..	..	..	1
Engineering, (including repairs to motor vehicles and motor cycles)	..	..	..	26
Firewood Merchants	..	..	..	1
Food Canning..	..	..	..	1
Gut Scraper	..	..	..	1
Joinery, Wheelwrights, Undertakers and Woodworkers	..	..	..	9
Letter File Making	..	..	..	1
Laundry	..	..	..	1
Mat and Rug Manufacturing	..	..	..	1
Metal Sorting.	..	..	..	3
Motor Body and Caravan Builders	..	..	..	2
Pig Food Processing	..	..	..	1
Record Player Manufacturers	..	..	..	2
Radio and Television Repairs	..	..	..	2
Saddlers and Farriers.	..	..	..	2
Sausage Manufacturers	..	..	..	7
Saw Mills	..	..	..	1
Slaughterhouses, with allied trades	..	..	..	3
Tailoring	..	..	..	1
Wood Box Manufacturers.	..	..	..	1

TOTAL :-

89

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 AND 1948

a) Inspections

	Number on Register.	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 5 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	14	16	3	Nil
Factories not included in above, in which Section 7 is enforced by Local authority	79	32	7	Nil
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (exc. outworkers' premises)	9	9	Nil	Nil
TOTAL :-	102	107	10	Nil

b) Cases in which defects were found

	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	No. of Cases in which prosecutions were Instituted
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	19	12	-	-	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including outworkers)	11	-	1	-	-
TOTAL :-	31	13	1	-	-

OUTWORKERS

Notification was received of 25 persons engaged in outwork in the district during the year, such homework including the making of letter files, gloves and other garments.

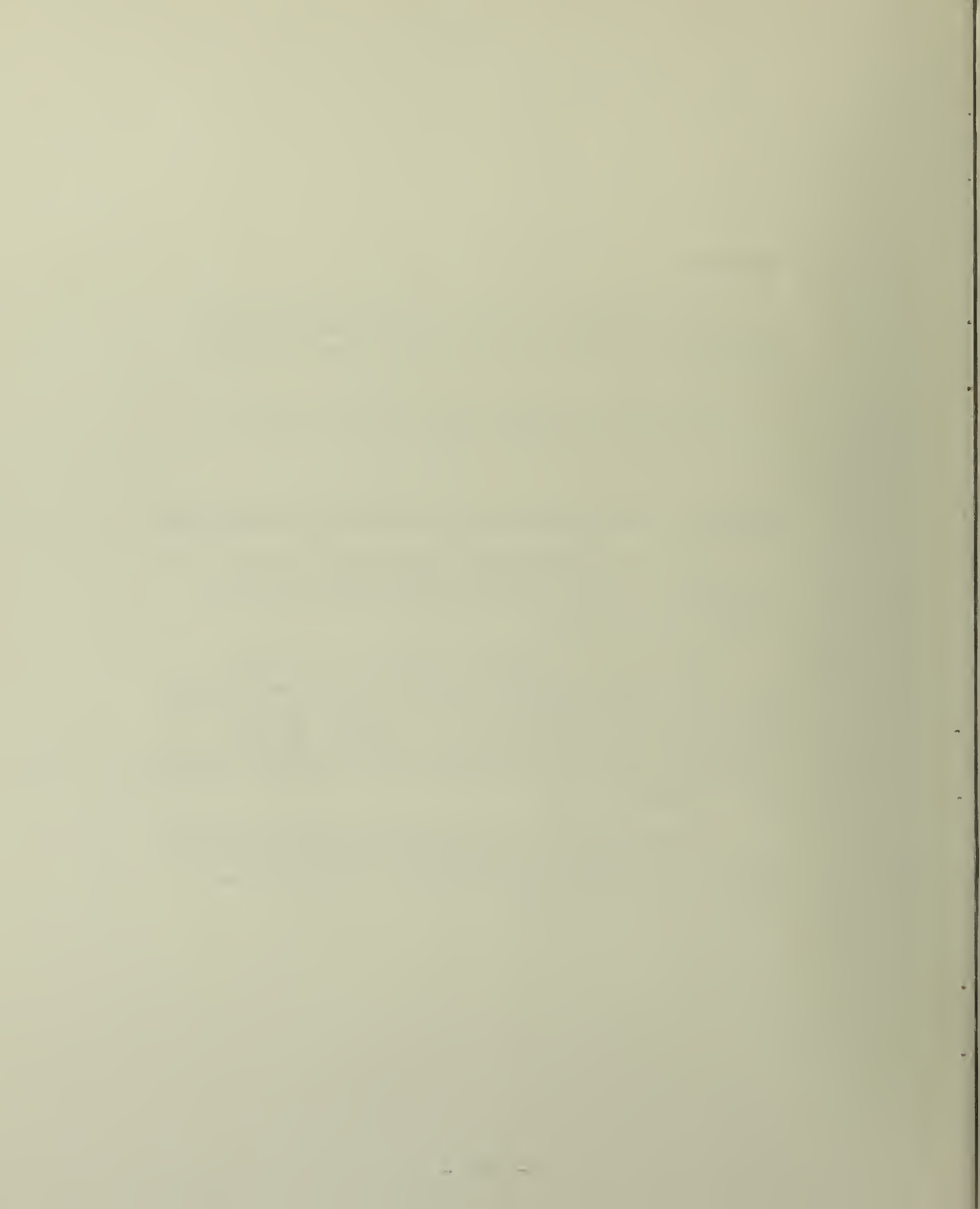
Home conditions were inspected in each case, and all were found to be satisfactory.

SECTION 34. CERTIFICATE OF MEANS OF ESCAPE IN CASE OF FIRE

No new certificates were issued during the year, and at the time of going to print, there seems to be every possibility that the above duty will devolve upon the Wiltshire Fire Brigade.

Although much painstaking work has been put into the issue of these certificates, the transference of this duty to the Fire Authority seems an obvious move, and will be welcomed by my Department. A schedule has been forwarded to the Chief Fire Officer, giving details of all factories in the area, and plans and fire escape certificates made available to him.

Thirteen factories in all have been issued with Means of Escape Certificates, and where necessary they have been reviewed and amended during the year. There are no Certificates outstanding.



SECTION SIX - PUBLIC HEALTH GENERALLY

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936, SECTION 269

NOVEMBER INSTALLINGS AND CARAVAN SITES - GENERAL

The number of caravans sited in the area has again increased both on individual sites and on the licenced land sites. This is due to the large influx of new residents into the adjoining area.

The number of caravans licenced bears no relation to the amount of work necessary to maintain a high standard of environmental hygiene, nor to the number of interviews with frustrated caravan owners who called at the office in an endeavour to locate a suitable site. Many sites were required for short periods only, while applicants endeavoured to find housing accommodation. Some owners found the Regulations irksome, but it has been found that the control vested in the Council is absolutely necessary.

Particular attention has been paid to fire precautions on caravan sites. Whilst it is true that the modern caravan, with its aluminium skin and non-inflammable insulation is much less liable to fire risk than the older type, hazard is still present in the use of bottled gas, solid fuel stoves, paraffin heaters etc. All owners have been notified of the minimum fire prevention precautions necessary, and all site conditions have been rigidly enforced.

Number of individual Licences issued during 1959 ..	53
Number of Licences refused on Public Health grounds.	1
Number of Site Licences issued	2
Number of individual caravans sited as at 31.12.59..	53
Number of site Licences as at 31.12.59	8
Number of caravans on Licenced Sites as at 31.12.59.	160
Total number of Licenced Caravans in the district as at 31.12.59	213
Number of visits paid (including visits to casual campers)	203

SUMMARY OF MOVEABLE DWELLINGS SITED IN THE DISTRICT CAVING
DISTRIBUTION IN PARISHES

Parish	Caravans with Independent Licences							Caravans on Licensed Sites						
	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Bishopstone	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blusdon	5	3	3	3	3	4	6	34	42	61	62	70	70	70
Castle Eaton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chiseldon	4	1	2	2	2	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feydon Wick	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Highworth	3	3	3	4	4	3	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ingleham	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Liddington	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Marston	1	2	4	2	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stratton St. Margaret	15	17	18	19	21	17	23	-	-	8	12	12	25	46
Wanborough	2	2	2	2	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wroughton	5	7	3	2	3	5	6	-	-	14	16	16	16	34
TOTAL :-	37	36	35	34	38	34	53	44	52	93	100	108	121	160

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL - INFORMATION FROM THE
ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR

During the year the Blunsdon Sewerage Scheme Stage III was completed, and 49 houses, including 28 Council houses, were connected to the sewers.

The Stratton Main Drainage Scheme Stage IV was also completed, relieving the flooding in the Ermin Street area, and enabling Persomage Farm Estate to be sewerred.

Sewerage and sewage disposal schemes for Castle Eaton and Bishopstone were prepared, and it is hoped to commence work during 1960.

Drainage

Progress in the facility to all houses within the district is naturally a slow process. There are now some 426 or 5.9% of the district who have no proper drainage facilities, and only with the provision of a sewer could proper drainage facilities be provided.

Improvement Grants, which incorporate septic tank drainage, together with a small number of private drainage schemes have provided a small but continuous improvement on this question. I am satisfied that every effort is being made by the Engineer and Surveyor to give proper sewage facilities, and progress should continue with the further use of improvement grants where sewers are not available.

The following table shows the position with regard to drainage and sanitary accommodation in all the Council's parishes, and reflects the need for provision of sewers in the parishes without this amenity, notably Bishopstone, Liddington, South Marston and Wanborough. In all these parishes I know the Engineer and Surveyor is making every effort to see that sewers are provided as early as possible. This is supported by the Council.

SUMMARY OF DRAINAGE AND SANITARY ACCOMMODATION IN THE DISTRICT

PARISH	DRAINAGE						SANITARY ACCOMMODATION					
	TOTAL NO. OF HOUSES	ON SEWER	%	ON TANKS & CESSPOOLS	% ON TANKS	NO. PROP. D/AGT.	% PROP. D/AGT.	ON W.C.s	% ON W.C.s	ON BUCKETS ETC	% ON BUCKETS ETC	
Dishopstone	185	-	-	129	70%	56	30%	81	44%	104	56%	
Blunsdon	356	199	56%	99	28.6%	58	15.4%	272	75%	84	24%	
Castle Taton	81	38	47%	36	44%	7	9%	65	80%	16	20%	
Chiseldon	619	441	71%	120	18.4%	58	10.6%	493	80%	126	20%	
Hannington	71	19	27%	33	46%	19	27%	47	67%	24	33%	
Haydon Wick	165	149	90%	3	1.8%	13	3.2%	154	92.4%	11	6.6%	
Higworth	1054	954	90%	71	6.8%	29	3.2%	1011	96%	43	4%	
Inglesham	41	-	-	35	85.4%	6	14.6%	31	75.6%	10	24.4%	
Liddington	120	20	17%	70	57.5%	30	25.5%	73	60.8%	47	39.2%	
South Norston	161	68	42%	53	33.2%	40	24.8%	121	75%	40	25%	
Stanton Fitzwarren	64	50	78%	4	6.4%	10	15.6%	53	82.8%	11	17.2%	
Stratton St. Margaret	2802	2773	98.9%	24	0.9%	5	0.2%	2795	99.7%	7	0.3%	
Wanborough	309	34	11%	230	74.4%	45	14.6%	187	61%	122	39%	
Wroughton	1173	1086	92.7%	37	3.0%	50	4.3%	1160	98.9%	13	1.1%	
TOTAL :-	7201	5831	81%	914	13.1%	426	5.9%	6543	90.8%	658	9.2%	

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are two offensive trades established in the district previously referred to in my reports, as follows:-

a) Marshgate Works, Stratton Road, Stratton St. Margaret

Involving tallow melting and bone boiling, in conjunction with a knackers yard established prior to 1900.

The knackers yard was inspected regularly with regard to complaints received of odours from the factory. Every assistance has been given by the management by extensive works carried out to provide scrubbing tanks, and as soon as possible chlorination to mitigate the odours which arise from the process carried out. I am hopeful that during the summer of 1960 the odours arising from this factory will be of an absolute minimum. However, no assurances can be given that, from a trade of this nature, no odours will ever arise.

The factory is situate within, what is now, a residential area, but at the time of its establishment it was isolated.

Further works are proposed with regard to the knackers yard, and these should go a long way to removing any nuisance by smells in the immediate vicinity of the works.

b) Premises off Swindon Road, Wroughton

These are used for gut scraping, and were licenced in 1907, however, I understand the premises are likely to be closed down during 1960.

SECTION SEVEN - REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

General

During the year, although there were great difficulties with regard to labour, a weekly collection was maintained throughout the district.

Vehicles

1 - Dennis Side Loader, 10 cubic yard, Petrol.	Acquired 7.9.48
1 - Dennis Side Loader, 12 cubic yard, Petrol.	Acquired 31.5.51
1 - Dennis Poxit, 18 cubic yard, Diesel.	Acquired 24.8.53
1 - Shelvoke & Drewry, 18 cubic yard, Diesel.	Acquired 21.10.58

Staff

Foreman, four drivers, six loaders and one Tipman.

Statistical Details

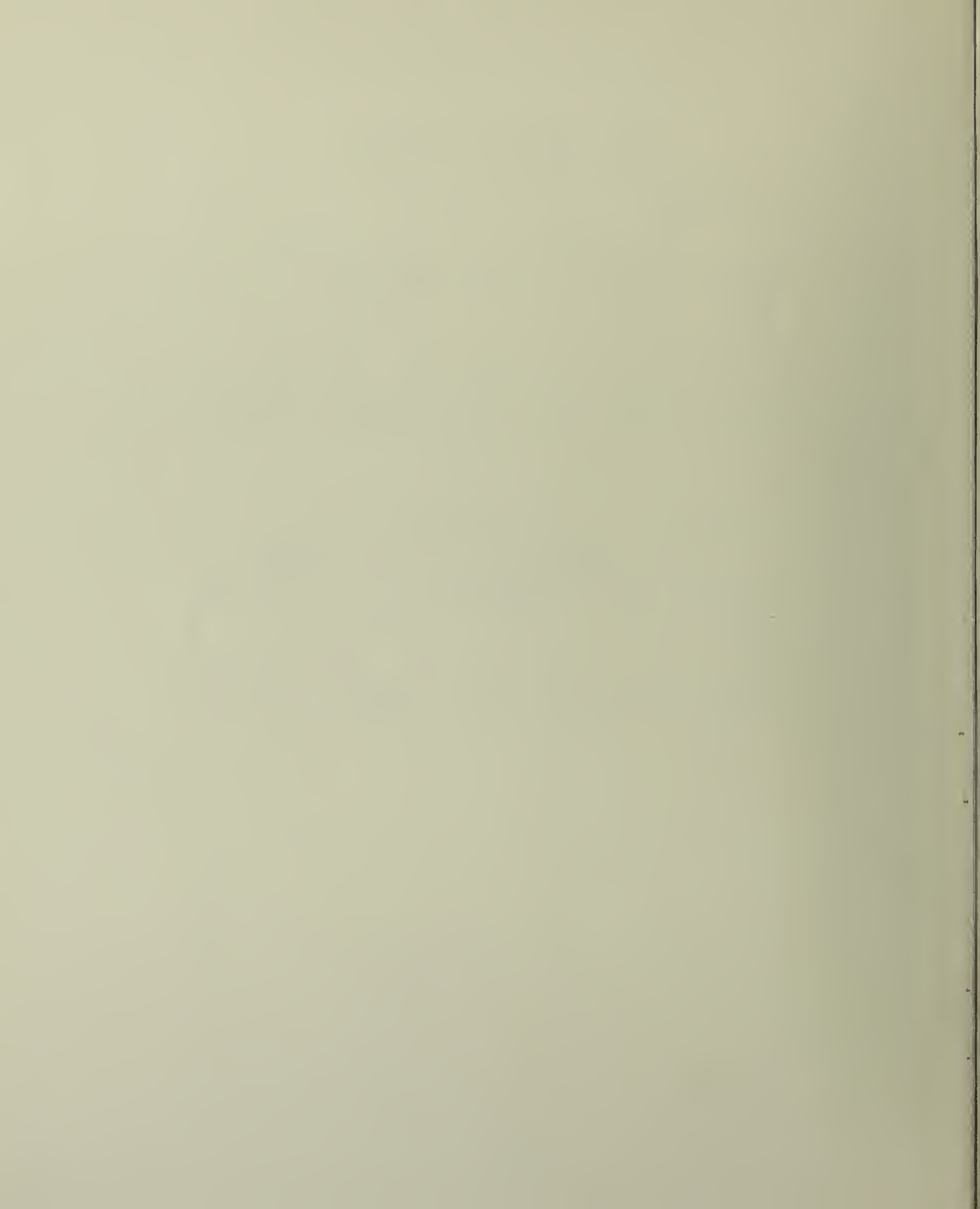
Number of Houses in the District ..	..	7,201
Size of District ..	..	48,54.9 acres
Number of Business and Industrial Premises, together with Caravans. ..	..	436
Refuse Disposal ..	..	Controlled Tip at North Wroughton
Method of Collection ..	..	Weekly, kerbside
Estimated quantity of Refuse Collected. ..	..	7,100 Tons x

x This figure is an estimated tonnage based on the cubic capacity of the vehicles, and the number of loads tipped per week. For this purpose 1 cubic yard of refuse is estimated as weighing 8 cwt.

SAVAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

	1 9 5 8						
Material	Weight				Value		
	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs	£	s.	d.
Paper	39	3	1	-	215	7	10
Metal		18	-	-	1	16	-
Rags		1	-	-		18	-
TOTAL:-	40	2	1	-	218	1	10

	1 9 5 9						
Material	Weight				Value		
	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs	£	s.	d.
Paper	34	-	2	-	152	18	2
Rags		1	3	-	1	9	9
TOTAL:-	34	2	1	-	154	7	11



RODENT CONTROL

The following table gives the details of the numbers of properties treated during the year. The large infestations were not serious, but greater effort could be made by farmers and others, who have a rodent risk, and where insufficient effort is being made to reduce this problem.

Large infestations are known to exist at certain agricultural holdings, and every effort is made to obtain their co-operation and the speedy extermination of the rat population to prevent migration to other farms, who treat this as a serious problem, and make every effort to see that the rodents are destroyed.

RODENT CONTROL FIGURES 1959

	Visits and Inspections	Treatments	Rats		Mice
			Major	Minor	
Council Houses	53	9	-	9	-
Sewage Works and Refuse Tip	48	3	1	2	-
Private Dwellings	292	48	-	40	8
Business Premises	85	21	3	7	11
Agricultural Properties	15	2	1	1	-
TOTAL :-	493	83	5	59	19

GENERAL DISINFESTATION

Wasps

It will be seen from the following table that a very large number of wasp nests were dealt with by the Department during the year.

The increase in the number of nests was presumably due to the very hot summer, and, although the service of destruction of the nests is not strictly speaking a recognised duty of the Department, it was felt that, with the large number of complaints received, there was no other way of dealing with them.

It was obvious that the complainants were very pleased with the service given in this respect.

Flies

The fly complaints dealt with were very heavy infestations of cluster or grass flies, resorting to roof spaces in houses.

These were dealt with by means of fumigants, and the results were very satisfactory.

Cockroaches	...	4 premises
Wasps Nests	...	80 premises
Flies	...	5 premises
Wood Lice	...	1 premise

THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1957.

Premises requiring inspection under the above Order, were again visited.

The necessity for adequate heat treatment was again emphasised, but on no occasion was waste food seen to be uncovered.

Due to the poorer market returns for pigs, 7 owners had ceased pig-keeping, 3 others no longer boiled swill, but bought it, or used dry meal which showed a decrease in price during the year.

Number of premises licenced during 1959 10

These premises were divided into the following categories :-

a)	Large - 100 pigs or 500 poultry or over	..	2
b)	Medium - 20 to 100 pigs or 100 to 500 poultry.		3
c)	Small - 4 to 20 pigs or 50 to 100 poultry	..	5

Types of boiling plants used :-

a)	Steam pressure	..	..	..	..	4
b)	Boilers (wood or coal)	..	..	..	..	6
Number of breaches of the Order						Nil

SECTION EIGHT - PETROLEUM CONSOLIDATION ACTS 1928 AND 1936

Below is a table giving particulars, in Parish order, of the number of licences granted, the quantity stored and the number of Filling Stations and Private Stores within the district.

Total quantity in gallons, licenced for private users	32,350
Total quantity in gallons, licenced for filling stations.	<u>41,550</u>
Total quantity licenced	<u>73,900</u>
Number of Licences in respect of private stores ..	54
Number of Licences in respect of filling stations. ..	<u>20</u>
Total number of Licences issued	<u>74</u>

CARBIDE OF CALCIUM

Highworth	1 Private Store	56 lb.
Chiseldon	1 Private Store	2,240 lb.
Stratton St. Marg.	1 Private Store	44,800 lb.
TOTAL :-	3 Private Stores	47,096 lb.

Total number of inspections to all premises during the year - 300

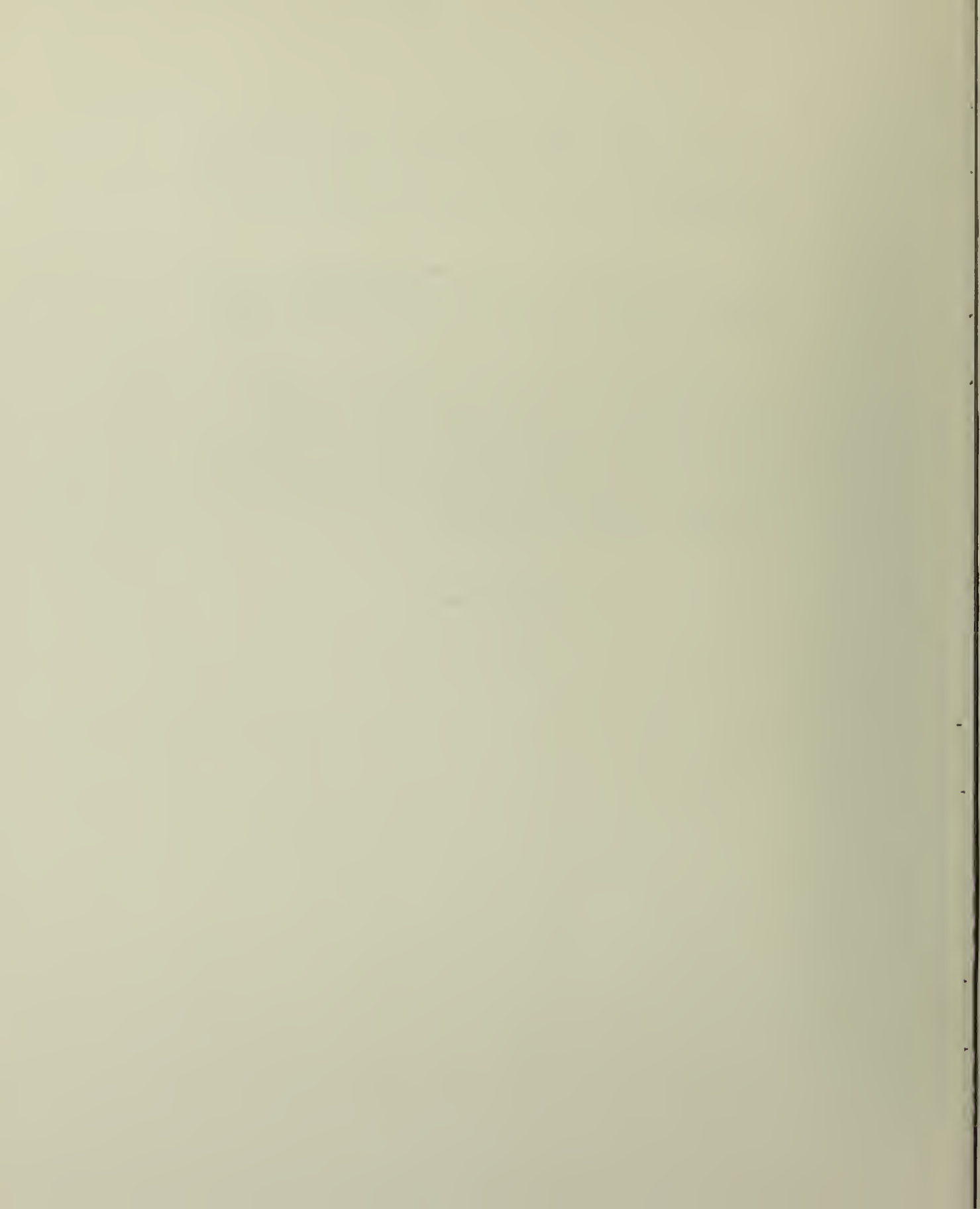
During the year each petroleum installation in the district was inspected, in conjunction with an officer of the Wiltshire Fire Brigade. Their assistance was invaluable and it was possible to compile a comprehensive list of the necessary works required at each installation.

A schedule of works was forwarded to each owner with the renewal forms, and by the end of the year many schedules had been completed, or works were in progress. Tanks over 20 years old were pressure or ullage tested, and one found to be defective. Two installations were not re-licenced, and plans were submitted therefore for one new private store and one new petrol filling station. In addition one petrol filling station was closed, and plans submitted for a new station on the same site.

Where electricity was in use at an installation owners were requested to submit a Certificate from the Southern Electricity Board, or other Member of the Poll of Approved Electrical Installation Contractors, certifying that the pump installation conformed with the conditions of licence.

In the majority of cases this work was put on order without delay, but due to the large demand from neighbouring authorities as well as our own, little headway had been made at the end of the year.

Although I feel that the inspection of these installations is a duty quite divorced from public health matters, I am now satisfied that a general uniform standard of safety is enforced throughout the Council's area. Much of the credit for my confidence is due to the help received from Mr. Brandbent of the Wiltshire Fire Brigade, and his colleagues, who so willingly assisted in the work.



NUMBER OF LICENCES ISSUED

Parish	Number of Licences	Quantity Stored in Gallons.	Total Stored in Gallons
Bishopstone	7 Private Stores	2,050	2,050
Blunsdon	2 Private Stores 1 Filling Station	300 3,000	3,300
Castle Eaton	2 Private Stores	800	800
Chiseldon	5 Private Stores 3 Filling Stations	1,450 6,000	7,450
Haydon Wick	1 Private Store	250	250
Highworth	7 Private Stores 4 Filling Stations	1,950 7,100	9,050
Lillington	1 Private Store	250	250
South Marston	3 Private Stores 1 Filling Station	4,000 2,000	6,000
Stratton St. Margaret	14 Private Stores 8 Filling Stations	16,450 18,150	34,600
Wanborough	6 Private Stores 1 Filling Station	1,700 1,500	3,200
Wroughton	6 Private Stores 2 Filling Stations	3,150 3,800	6,950
TOTAL :-	74 Licences	73,900	73,900

SECTION NINE - HOUSING

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1959

1.	Number of permanent dwellings in district at end of year	6,821
2.	Number of permanent dwellings in district owned by Local Authority	1,658
3.	Number of applications for Council houses at end of year	242
4.	Inspection of dwellings during year:	
i)	Inspected for housing defects under Public Health Acts	15
ii)	Inspected for housing defects under Housing Acts	545
iii)	Number of dwellings so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation ..	26
iv)	Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation ..	43
5.	Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action	15
6.	Action under Statutory Powers:	
A.	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 12, Housing Act 1957	
i)	Number of dwellings where Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	3
ii)	Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of Formal Notices:	
	By owners	3
	By Local Authority in default of owners ..	-
B.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
i)	Number of dwellings where Formal Notices served.	2
ii)	Number of dwellings made fit as a result of Formal Notices:	
	By owners	2
	By Local Authority in default of owners ..	-
C.	Proceedings under Section 16, Housing Act 1957:	
i)	Number of Demolition Orders made	19
ii)	Number of houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders	6
iii)	Number of Undertakings accepted	7
iv)	Number of Undertakings completed	7

D.	<u>Proceedings under Sections 42, 43, 46 and 48</u> <u>Housing Act 1957:</u>	
i)	Number of houses in clearance areas upon which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
ii)	Number of houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders	Nil
iii)	Number of houses in clearance areas which have been retained as temporary accommodation ..	Nil
E.	<u>Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 27</u> <u>Housing Act 1957:</u>	
i)	Number of dwellings where Closing Orders were made	Nil
ii)	Number of dwellings closed as result of Closing Orders or Undertakings by owners ..	Nil
iii)	Number of dwellings where Closing Orders were cancelled in consequence of premises being made fit	1
F.	<u>Proceedings under Section 76, Housing Act 1957</u>	
i)	Number of cases of overcrowding at end of year.	-
ii)	Number of cases of overcrowding discovered during year	2
iii)	Number of cases of overcrowding abated during year	2

COUNCIL OWNED PROPERTY

1.	Total number of Pre-war houses owned by the Highworth Rural District Council	502
2.	Total number of houses owned or administered by Highworth Rural District Council at 31.12.59	2,039

HOUSING ACT 1949

HOUSING REPAIRS & RENTS ACT 1954

HOUSE PURCHASE & HOUSING ACT 1959

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The following table shows the number of houses improved, and the value of Grants paid during 1959. Although the figures show a slight decrease over 1958 in the value of work done by way of Discretionary Grants this is more than balanced by the value of Standard Grant work commenced half way through the year.

It is, therefore, felt that "Operation Rescue" commenced in 1949 has been very successful, and has gone a long way to reducing the number of houses which would almost certainly have been dealt with as Slum Clearance cases under the Housing Act.

THE TOTAL VALUE OF DISCRETIONARY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS COMMITTED DURING 1959.

Total Cost	Improvement Cost	Repairs Cost	Grant Allowed
£19,105	£16,043	£3,062	£6,696

DISCRETIONARY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS COMPLETED FROM 1942 - 1959

Parish	No. of Houses Completed	Total Cost £	Improvement Cost £	Repairs Cost £	Grant Allowed £
Bishopstone	7	3,804	3,525	281	1,408
Blunsdon	16	16,696	12,131	4,265	4,296
Castle Eaton	9	9,010	7,164	1,846	3,408
Chiseldon	12	9,517	6,906	2,612	3,491
Hannington	3	3,354	2,824	530	1,182
Haydon Wick	2	958	910	48	155
Highborth	32	24,281	20,142	4,139	9,489
Inglesham	7	4,109	3,167	942	1,583
Liddington	3	1,948	1,786	162	893
South Marston	5	2,647	2,058	589	994
Stanton Fitzwarren	6	4,328	3,452	876	1,724
Stratton St. Margaret	18	11,234	9,768	1,445	3,791
Wanborough	12	10,612	8,266	2,346	3,702
Wroughton	45	20,018	17,340	2,678	8,247
TOTAL :-	177	£122,516	£99,737	£22,759	£44,663

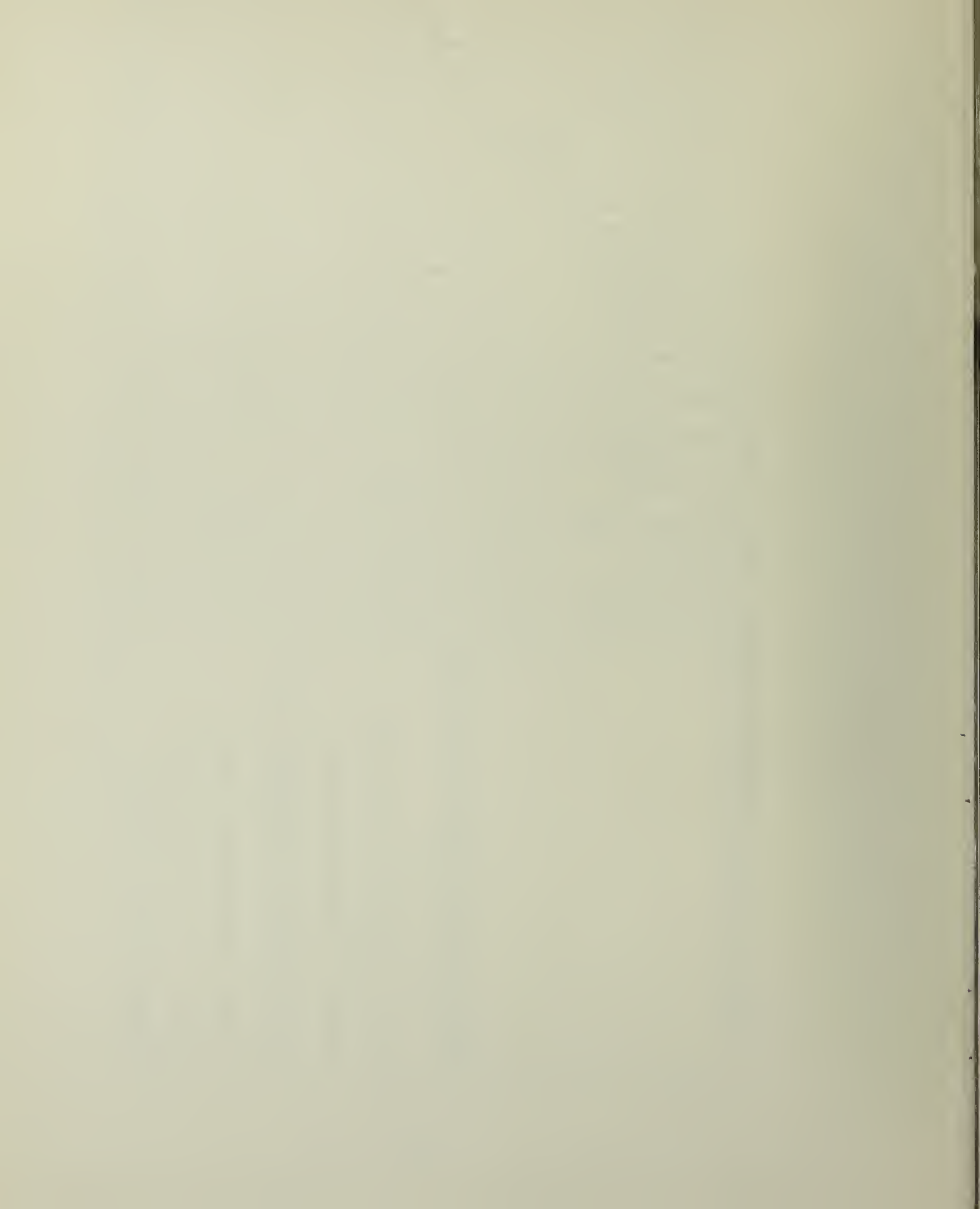
STANDARD IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

From the inception of the scheme in January 1959 of Standard Improvement Grants payable under the House Purchase & Housing Act 1959, until the end of the year, 22 Grants were approved. These varied from the installation of one item such as hot water supply system, to all 5 standard amenities.

The amount of improvement carried out under the Scheme is very encouraging. The inspections, both initial and final, are carried out, as are the Discretionary Improvement Grants, by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department, and the Public Health Department, working in close co-operation.

SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS 1936/57 FROM 1945 to 1959.

Number of houses represented under the Housing Acts 1936/57	Bishopstone	13	29	10	35	4	5	57	3	5	9	7	35	6	36	254	Total
Number of Demolition Orders made		10	19	-	33	2	3	32	3	3	1	-	22	5	23	156	
Number of Closing Orders made		1	1	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	9	
Number of houses licenced for temporary occupation as at 31.12.59		-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	5	
Number of Undertakings accepted		2	9	10	2	2	2	20	-	2	8	7	11	1	13	89	
Number of Undertakings cleared		2	5	13	-	-	-	8	-	-	2	-	6	-	8	44	
Number of houses demolished		2	17	-	16	-	5	11	3	3	1	-	6	4	24	90	



TYPES OF HOUSES OWNED BY HIGHWORTH R.D.C. 31.12.59

TRADITIONAL

Post-War O.A.Bs	..	..	..	37		
Pre-war houses	..	..	..	475		
Pre-war O.A.Bs	..	..	..	27		
War-time agricultural	..	..	..	8		
Post-war houses	..	..	..	217		
Post-war flats	..	..	..	44		
Experimental houses (Chick)	..	..	..	6		
Gregory Flats	..	..	..	8	..	822

NON-TRADITIONAL

Reema O.A.Bs	..	..	..	9		
Reema houses	..	..	..	361		
Reema flats	..	..	..	35		
Woolaway houses	..	..	..	76		
Cornish Unit houses	..	..	..	120		
Cornish flats	..	..	..	48		
Airey houses	..	..	..	156		
Swedish timber houses	..	..	..	8		
Cornish Unit O.A.Bs	..	..	..	4	..	817

BUNG LOTS

Originally erected by the Ministry of Aircraft Production	378	..	378
--	----	----	----	-----	----	-----

MISCELLANEOUS PROPERTIES

Staff houses and flats	..	..	..	11		
Hutments	..	..	..	1		
Site houses	..	..	..	10	..	22

TOTAL:- 2,039

HOUSING PROGRESS

Number of houses completed post-war by the
Highworth Rural District Council 1,131

Number of houses completed post-war by
Private Enterprise 1,207

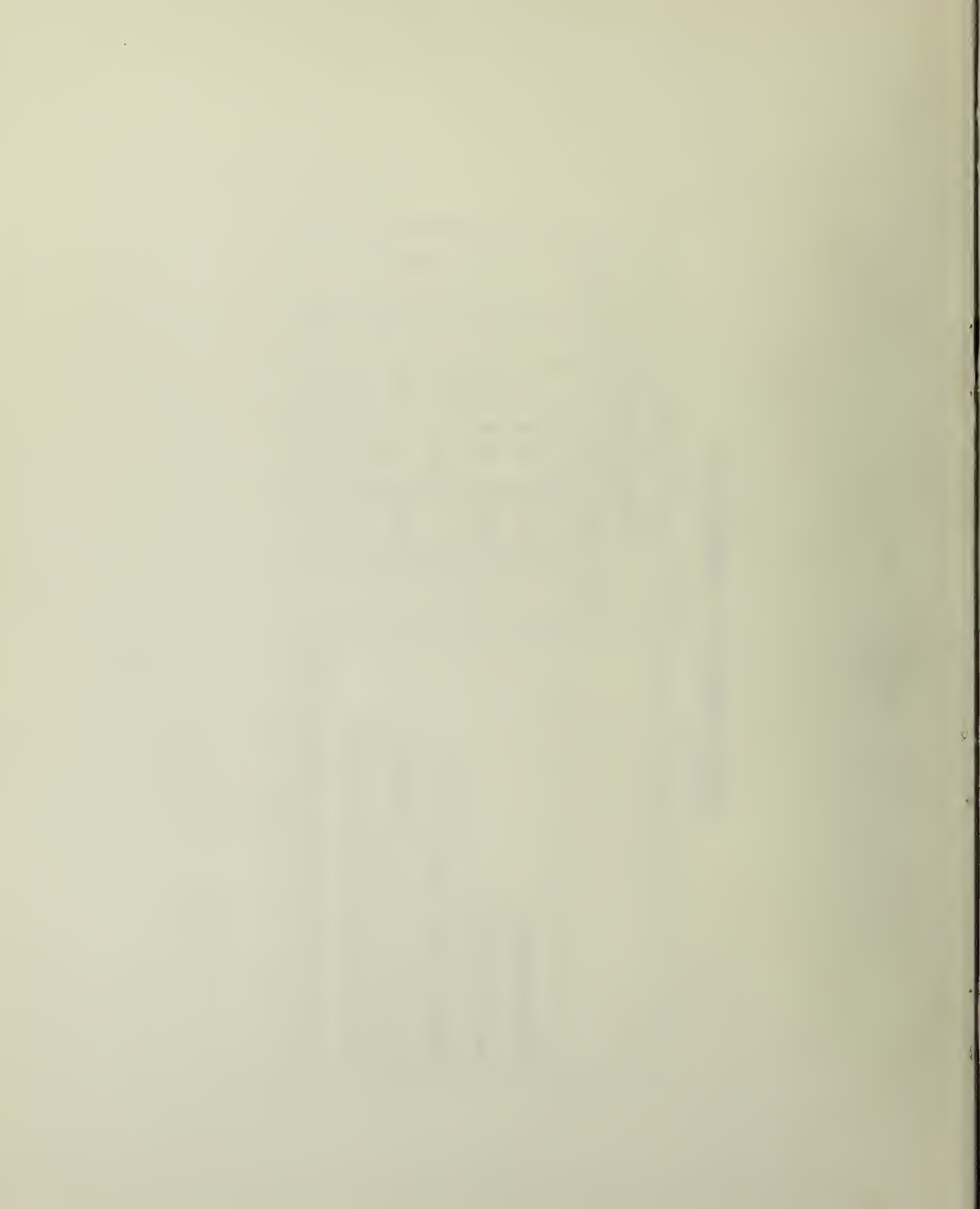
2,338

POST - WAR HOUSES. NUMBER COMPLETED YEARLY

Year	Enterprise	C o u n c i l					Total
		Traditional		Non - Traditional		Council applc.	
		For Industry	Council Applc.	For Industry	Council applc.		
1946	15	-	6	-	8	29	
1947	13	-	27	-	-	40	
1948	9	-	37	-	46	92	
1949	11	-	8	-	56	115	
1950	9	-	18	-	54	81	
1951	7	2	19	16	66	110	
1952	23	5	17	34	71	150	
1953	31	7	23	41	120	222	
1954	97	12	16	52	16	153	
1955	107	3	13	36	1	160	
1956	98	31	41	56	66	292	
1957	196	8	6	19	5	234	
1958	252	-	-	-	5	257	
1959	339	-	1	-	23	363	
TOTAL:-	1207	68	232	254	577	2358	

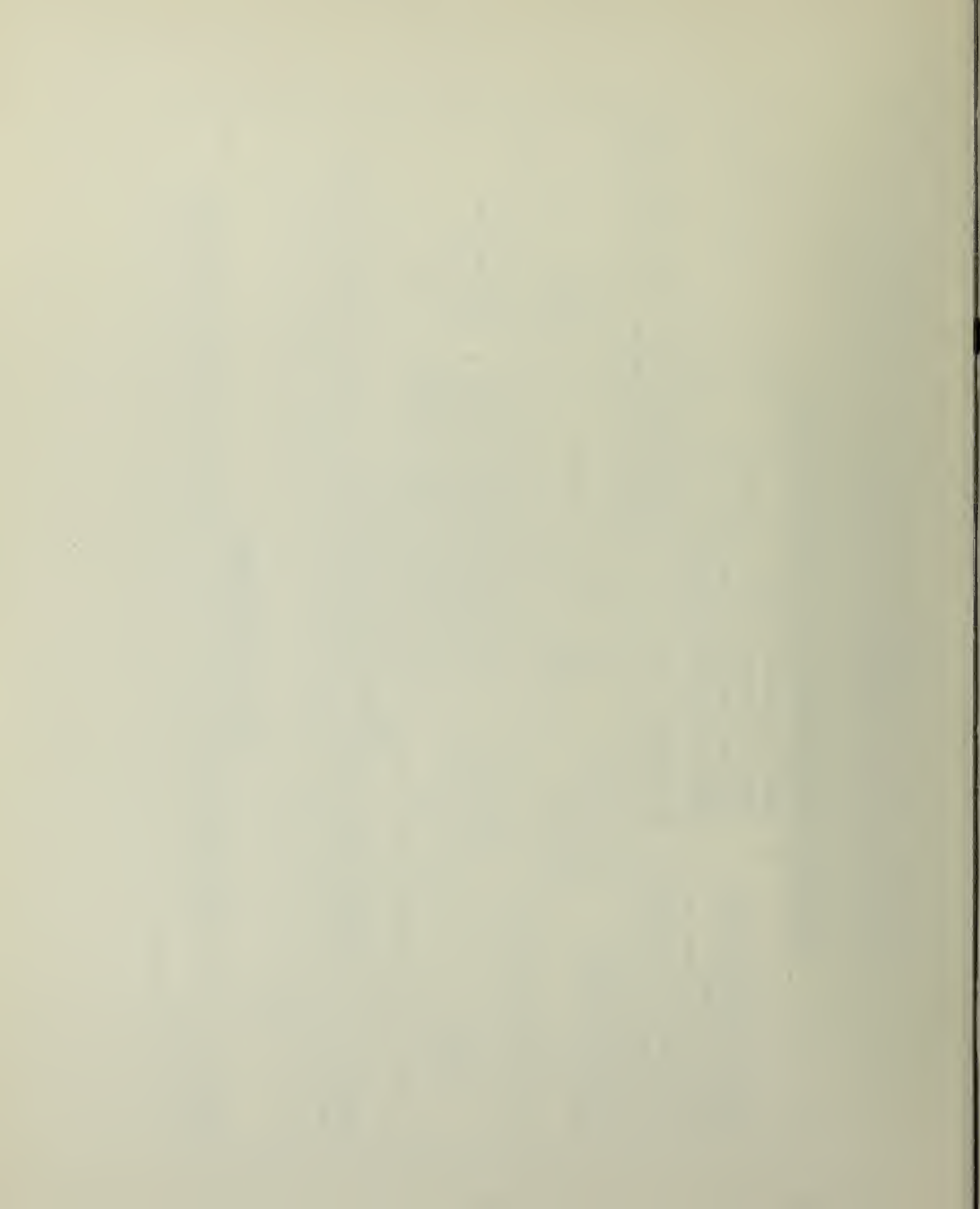
HOUSING APPLICANTS - FAMILY DETAILS

	Number of Applicants					
	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Single Persons	8	6	37	3	4	1
Married Couples	105	105	95	53	45	47
Married Couples with 1 child	111	23	54	56	30	72
Married Couples with 2 children	80	89	43	37	37	35
Married Couples with 3 children	34	33	22	18	15	11
Married Couples with 4 or more children	21	20	22	17	16	17



STATISTICAL HOUSING DETAILS FOR ALL PERIODS 31.12.52

Details of houses etc. owned by Highworth Rural District Council	Number of Pre-war houses			502	Total:- 2,039							
	Number of wartime houses, temporary bungalows and site houses			406								
	Number of Post-war houses			1,131								
New houses built in 1958 New houses built in 1959	By Highworth R.D.C. .. 5			By Private Enterprise . 252	Total 257							
	By Highworth R.D.C. . 24					Total 363						
Total applications renewed, 31.12.59 183	Accommodation now used by applicants	Rooms 56	Gardens 10	Number outside district 27								
		Flats 8										
Population of District 25,579	Family Units involved in applications 619	% of population 1959 - 24.7%				Number of old age bungalow applicants 59						
		% of population 1958 - 3.60%										
		% of population 1957 - 2.6%										
		% of population 1956 - 3.56%										
		% of population 1955 - 5.09%										
Number of Applicants	DATE OF FAMILY DETAILS											
	Single	Man & wife	& 1 ch.	& 2 ch.	& 3 ch.	& 4 ch.	& 5 ch.	& 6 ch.				
1	47	72	35	41	8	7	2					
Number of Applicants	YEAR OF APPLICATION											
	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
	1	1	2	1	4	6	14	7	13	16	37	81



TYPES OF POST-WAR HOUSES BUILT IN F.G.M. AREA

Year	Traditional	Airey	Swedish Timber.	Woolaway	Reema	Cornish Unit	Gregory	Exp. Chick	Total
1946	6	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	14
1947	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
1948	37	46	-	-	-	-	-	-	83
1949	8	96	-	-	-	-	-	-	104
1950	18	14	-	-	10	30	-	-	72
1951	21	-	-	22	20	38	-	2	103
1952	22	-	-	30	52	12	8	3	127
1953	30	-	-	24	104	32	-	1	191
1954	28	-	-	-	14	54	-	-	96
1955	16	-	-	-	37	-	-	-	53
1956	72	-	-	-	122	-	-	-	194
1957	14	-	-	-	24	-	-	-	38
1958	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	5
1959	1	-	-	-	22	1	-	-	24
TOTAL:-	300	156	8	76	405	172	8	6	1131

